WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A transceiver adapter, comprising:

a substrate, including electrical contacts on a first side thereof for electrically contacting a transceiver, and electrical contacts on a second side thereof for electrically contacting a printed wire assembly.

2. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said first side of said substrate are a different type of electrical contact from said electrical contacts on said second side of said substrate.

3. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said first side of said substrate have a configuration that is different from the configuration of said electrical contacts on said second side of said substrate.

4. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said first side of said substrate comprise L leads.

5. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said second side of said substrate comprise L leads.

6. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said first side of said substrate comprise a ball grid array.

7. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said second side of said substrate comprise a ball grid array.

8. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said electrical contacts on said first side of said substrate are arranged for mating with electrical contacts on a transceiver.

9. The transceiver adapter of claim 8, wherein said electrical contacts on said second side of said substrate are arranged for mating with electrical contacts on a printed wire assembly.

10. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, wherein said substrate allows a single transceiver to mate with at least two electrical contact footprints.

11. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, further comprising an adapter plate.

12. The transceiver adapter of claim 11, wherein said adapter plate has a uni-body construction.

13. The transceiver adapter of claim 11, wherein said adapter plate comprises tabs for positioning a transceiver.

14. The transceiver adapter of claim 13, wherein said tabs are configured to interact with corresponding cutout regions of a transceiver.

15. The transceiver adapter of claim 11, wherein said adapter plate comprises mounting pins for mechanically coupling said adapter plate with a printed wire assembly.

16. The transceiver adapter of claim 15, wherein said mounting pins are configured to receive therein a screw for securing said adapter plate to a printed wire assembly.

17. The transceiver adapter of claim 11, wherein said adapter plate comprises at least one region on a bottom surface thereof configured to receive therein a screw for securing said adapter plate to a printed wire assembly.

18. The transceiver adapter of claim 11, further comprising:

a clip mounted on said adapter plate for securing a transceiver to said adapter plate.

19. The transceiver adapter of claim 18, wherein said clip is a collar clip.

20. The transceiver adapter of claim 1, further comprising:

an electrical connector mounted on said adapter for electrically coupling leads of a transceiver with the substrate.

21. A transceiver adapter, comprising:

an adapter plate, including (a) tabs for positioning a transceiver, and (b) mounting pins for coupling said adapter plate with a printed wire assembly; and

a substrate hole through which a transceiver may be electrically mated with a printed wire assembly.

22. The transceiver adapter of claim 21, wherein said substrate hole comprises a footprint adapting substrate.

23. The transceiver adapter of claim 22, wherein said footprint adapting substrate comprises electrically conductive circuit traces.

24. The transceiver adapter of claim 22, wherein said footprint adapting substrate is deposited in said open region.

25. The transceiver adapter of claim 22, wherein said footprint adapting substrate comprises first electrical contacts on a first side of said footprint adapting substrate for electrically contacting a transceiver, and second electrical contacts on a second side of said footprint adapting substrate for electrically contacting a printed wire assembly.

26. A transceiver, comprising:

electrical contacts; and

a mateable electrical connector, including (a) electrical contacts on a first side thereof for electrically contacting said electrical contacts of said transceiver, and (b) electrical contacts on a second side thereof for electrically contacting a printed wire assembly.

27. The transceiver of claim 26, wherein said transceiver is a parallel optical transceiver.

28. The transceiver of claim 26, wherein said transceiver is mounted on a printed wire assembly proximal to a chassis wall.

29. The transceiver of claim 26, wherein said transceiver is mounted on a printed wire assembly and said transceiver extends through a chassis wall opening.

30. The transceiver of claim 26, wherein said transceiver comprises mounting sockets for mechanically coupling said transceiver with a printed wire assembly.

31. The transceiver of claim 30, wherein said mounting sockets are configured to receive therein a screw for securing said transceiver to a printed wire assembly.

32. The transceiver adapter of claim 26, wherein said transceiver comprises at least one region on a bottom surface thereof configured to receive therein a screw for securing said transceiver to a printed wire assembly.

33. The transceiver of claim 26, wherein said transceiver comprises securing means for mechanically coupling said transceiver with a printed wire assembly.